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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/17/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [UNSC](#) [AF](#)
SUBJECT: FRANCE TO PROPOSE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON
PRECURSORS/AFGHANISTAN

REF: 4/7 MOON/DELMAS-SCHERER E-MAIL

Classified By: POLITICAL MINISTER COUNSELOR JEFF DELAURENTIS, FOR REASON 1.4 B/D

11. (C) Benoit Guidee, the expert on Afghanistan issues for the French Mission to the UN, told Poloff April 16 that France would like to adopt a Security Council resolution on the trafficking of chemical precursors in Afghanistan. France will push to adopt such a resolution before the June 12 conference in Paris. Guidee said France has heard from China, Russia, the UK and Afghanistan, all of whom are generally in favor of the idea (although China said any draft would have to take into account regional concerns, meaning that Pakistan will need to be comfortable with it). He said Paris has received feedback from the State Department, and will likely propose a draft resolution within the coming weeks. Regarding the State Department's reported preference for a Presidential Statement (PRST), Guidee said this initiative is coming directly from the President's office, and it will be difficult to convince the Elysee to push for a PRST instead of a resolution.

12. (C) In reaction to Afghanistan Coordinator Pat Moon's April 7 e-mail reply to the French Embassy in Washington, Guidee went over the French proposal, and emphasized that the purpose of a resolution is to reinforce the safeguards already in place. The resolution would focus only on precursors, and would avoid making any controversial statements on the different approaches to combating the illicit drug trade in Afghanistan. Guidee said Paris is in the process of incorporating suggestions given by other members of the P-5, and will likely send building blocks to New York within the next two weeks.
Khalilzad